

## Agronomy Career Development Event

New Jersey FFA Association  
New Jersey Department of Agriculture  
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*In Cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education*

### Purpose of Event

Skills and proficiencies in identifying agronomic crops, seeds, weeds, diseases, equipment, etc, crop management from production to marketing, and understanding of sustainable agriculture are necessary for successful careers in agronomy. FFA activities are an integral part of the instructional program in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Education. The Agronomy Career Development Event stimulates interest and understanding of agronomy through the demonstration of agronomic skills & proficiencies.

### Common Core & State Core Curriculum Content Standards (CCCS)

Through Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Education, FFA helps students meet the 2010 Common Core and State Core Curriculum Content Standards in various areas. The Agronomy Career Development Event teaches students about English Language Arts, Technology, and 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Life and Careers standards. Some examples of how the Agronomy Career Development Event is meeting the standards are:

**Students will: integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.**

- Comprehension and critical analysis skills of Agricultural Education students are developed through identification and evaluation of plant species (crop and weed), insect pests, and agronomic equipment through media (slides, pictures, and computers). [RI.11-12.7. – English Language Arts: Reading: Informational Text – Integration of Knowledge and Skills]

**All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures.**

- Students apply the process of critical thinking while completing agronomy event. [9.1 - 21st-Century Life and Careers: 21st-Century Life & Career Skills - (A.) Critical Thinking and Problem Solving]

**All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaboratively and to create and communicate knowledge.**

- By participating in the Agronomy Career Development Event, students use computer applications to complete all five components of the CDE. [8.1 – Technology: Educational Technology]

### Rules of Event

All Career Development Events will follow the general rules, which are published in the NJ State FFA Activity Guide (Form 12.019a). This event consists of five phases: Phase I – General Knowledge Exam (50 Minutes – 50 questions worth 100 points), Phase II – Identification of 25 weed and/or crop plant and/or seed (30 Minutes – worth 75 points), Phase III – Pest Management-Disorders (5 samples – 10 minutes – worth 50 points), Phase IV – Pest Management-Insect Identification (5 samples – 10 minutes – worth 50 points), Phase V – Equipment and Machinery Identification (20 specimens – 20 minutes – worth 100 points). This event will be administered online using MyCAERT. Computers with internet access are needed for each individual competing in the event. A proctor who is not involved in training or working with team members is also needed to administer the test. Teams will consist of four (4) members whose scores will all be used to determine the team's rank. For more details on this event, [click here](#) to consult the [National FFA Career Development Event Handbook](#)

### New Jersey Event

*(other scoring will occur on the national level)*

Phase I – General Knowledge Exam – 100 points  
Phase II – Weed/Crop/Seed Identification – 75 points  
Phase III – Pest Management (Disorders) – 50 points  
Phase IV – Pest Management (Insect Identification) – 50 points  
Phase V – Equipment and Machinery Identification – 100 points

[Click here to discover  
Career Opportunities,  
SAE Opportunities, and  
Proficiency Award Areas  
that correspond to the Agronomy  
Career Development Event!](#)

Team Total = 1500    Individual Total = 375

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